REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-18 are currently pending. Claims 1-14 have been amended; and Claims 15-18 have been added by the present amendment. The changes and additions to the claims are supported by the originally filed specification and do not add new matter.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1, 2, and 4-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0117547 to Ogihara et al. (hereinafter "the '547 application"); and Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the '547 application in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0047317 to Yodo (hereinafter "the '317 application").

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Vu and Primary Examiner Truong for the interview granted Applicants' representatives on March 18, 2008, at which time the outstanding rejections of Claims 1, 5-7, 9, and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) were discussed. The Examiners indicated that the proposed amendments to the claims appear to overcome the '547 application, pending the Examiners' further consideration of the claims upon formal submission of a response to the outstanding Office Action.

Amended Claim 1 is directed to a computer-readable storage medium, comprising:

> a contents area configured to record a contents file, the contents file including contents data and supplementary data corresponding to said contents data;

> a database area configured to record a database file, the database file including said supplementary data corresponding to said contents data,

> wherein a reproducing apparatus having an insufficient memory capacity accesses said supplementary data included in the contents file, and a reproducing apparatus having a sufficient memory capacity accesses said supplementary data included in said database file.

Regarding the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), the '547 application is directed to a method of transmitting a command to reproduce an audio-only disk-shaped recording medium to a device driver on the basis of a request from application software.[1] In particular, the '547 application discusses a file configuration created by an audio CD file system including a disk/track information file, a CD-text information file, and audio data files.[2]

However, it is respectfully submitted that the '547 application fails to disclose a contents area configured to record a contents file, the contents file including contents data and supplementary data corresponding to said contents data. Rather, as cited by the outstanding Office Action, the '547 application discusses *a CD-text information file* that includes data that is considered appropriate to present by text according to recorded contents of a CD-DA.[3] The '547 application discusses that a sub-code is inserted and recorded on the CD-DA together with digital audio data. Further, the '547 application discusses that text data can be inserted as information to be stored in a sub-coding frame including the sub-code, which is so called CD-text information.[4] The '547 application does not disclose a *contents file including contents data and supplementary data corresponding to said contents data*, as defined in Claim 1.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 1 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably define over the '547 application.

Amended Claim 5, recites in part,

> recording, on a predetermined recording medium, a contents file including contents data and supplementary data corresponding to said contents data.

Amended Claim 6, recites in part,

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[1] See '547 application, paragraph [0001].
[2] Id., see Figure 6.
[3] Id. at paragraphs [0186] and [0187].
[4] Id.

recording means for recording, on a predetermined recording medium, a contents file and a database file, said contents file including contents data and supplementary data corresponding to said contents data, and said database file including said supplementary data corresponding to said contents data.

Amended Claim 7, recites in part,

readout means for reading out supplementary data stored in a contents file from a recording medium having recorded thereon said contents file and a database file, said contents file including contents data and said supplementary data corresponding to said contents data, and said database file including said supplementary data corresponding to said contents data.

Amended Claim 9, recites in part,

readout means for reading out supplementary data stored in a database file, from a recording medium having recorded thereon a contents file and said database file, said contents file including contents data and said supplementary data corresponding to said contents data, and said database file including said supplementary data corresponding to said contents data.

Amended Claim 12, recites in part,

readout means for selectively reading out, from a recording medium having recorded thereon a contents file and a database file, supplementary data included in said contents file and the supplementary data included in said database file, said contents file including contents data and said supplementary data corresponding to said contents data, and said database file including said supplementary data corresponding to said contents data.

As noted above, the '547 application fails to disclose a contents area configured to record a contents file, the contents file including contents data and supplementary data corresponding to said contents data, as recited in Claim 1. Thus, the '547 application fails to disclose the recording method and recording apparatus recited in Claims 5 and 6, respectively. Further, the '547 application fails to disclose the reproducing apparatus recited in Claims 7, 9, and 12, respectively. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 5-7, 9, and 12 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably define over the '547 application.

The present amendment also sets forth new Claims 15-18 for examination on the merits. No new matter has been added. New Claims 15-18 recite limitations analogous to the limitations recited in Claims 5-7, 9, and 12, respectively, but in non-means-plus-function format. Accordingly, for reasons analogous to the reasons stated above for the patentability of Claims 5-7, 9, and 12, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 15-18 patentably define over the '547 application.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 1, 5-7, 9, 12, and 15-18 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably define over the '547 application.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussion, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as amended herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Bradley D. Lytle
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 40,073

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/07)
I:\ATTY\JM\27'S\275193US\275193US-AM DUE 4-10-08.DOC

Johnny Ma
Registration No. 59,976

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